

51. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 50 wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes the amino acid sequence shown in Fig. 4 (SEQ ID No. 1) from initiator codon 295 to terminator codon 1035.

52. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 51 wherein the nucleotide sequence is shown in Fig. 4 (SEQ ID No. 1) from initiator codon 295 to terminator codon 1035.

53. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 50 wherein the nucleotide sequence is at least 90% identical to the one shown in Fig. 4 (SEQ ID No. 1) from initiator codon 295 to terminator codon 1035.

54. (Amended) A nucleic acid as claimed in claim 50 further comprising an inducible promoter region of the nucleotide sequence encoding the *R. corallina ohp* operon described in Fig. 3 (SEQ ID No. 1) wherein the Regulator (REG) protein controls transcriptional initiation of said inducible promoter region.

55. (Amended) A nucleic acid as claimed in claim 54 wherein the promoter region is the *ohp* promoter region which lies between genes *orfR* regulatory gene (terminator codon 1035) and *orfT* transport (initiator codon 1450) shown in Fig. 4 (SEQ ID No. 1) or is a modified inducible promoter region which is at least 90% identical to said *ohp* promoter

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cont) Def  
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region.

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57. (Amended) A vector as claimed in claim 56 comprising one or more of the following: luxAB signal genes; sacB gene; antibiotic resistance; RP4/RK2 mobilizing elements.

Please add new claim 61, as follows:

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61. (New) A method of introducing an operon protein into a host cell, which operon protein is the regulator (REG) protein of the *R. corallina ohp* operon or a modification thereof, said method comprising the step of transforming said host cell with a vector as claimed in claim 56.

Cancel claim 58.

Marked-up versions of the replacement paragraphs for page 22 of the specification, the primers disclosed at pages 35 and 36 and amended claims 34, 50-55 and 57 are attached hereto.

Please insert, after the claims, the attached "Abstract of the Disclosure".